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Date: November 24, 2000

Joseph R. Keating

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**PATENT** 27877.51

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Norio HAGA, et al.

Serial No.: 09/171,236

Filing Date: July 13, 1999

For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR IMAGE

**PROCESSING** 

Art Unit: 2672

Examiner: M. GOOD-JOHNSON

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement issued on October 24, 2000, Applicants elect Group IV, including Claims 15-24 and 26-34 for prosecution in the present application. This election is made <u>WITH</u> traverse.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement regarding the restriction between Group IV, Claims 15-24 and 26-34, and Group V, Claim 25.

Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 25 should be examined with the claims of Group IV, Claims 15-24 and 26-34.

The Claims of Group IV and the Claims of Group V both relate to an image processing device having an image generating display means for generating two-dimensional images that reveal virtual space constructed with a three-dimensional model consisting of a plurality of polygons. Both the Claims of Group IV and Group V contain elements that relate to changing or modifying positions of the polygons ("polygon tilting means for changing the coordinate values of the vertices of said polygons" in claim 24 and "position determination means for determining the positional relation between said non-disappearing polygons and said points of view, and coordinate modification means for modifying the coordinate values of the vertices of said nondisappearing polygons according to the results of the determination by said position determination means" in claim 25).

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that a search for the subject matter of the Claims of Group IV would necessarily include and encompass a search for the subject matter of the Claims of Group V.

Applicants hereby reserve the right to file a Divisional Application to pursue prosecution of the non-elected claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 24, 2000

Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 37,368

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